

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

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AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS STATE 225646

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION PROJECT

1. PENNSYLVANIA'S AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KLINE IS SPONSORING A CONGRESS OF WORLD UNITY AND BROTHERHOOD TO BE CONVENED IN PHILADELPHIA IN JULY, 1976. INITIAL PLANNING ENVISIONS ATTENDANCE OF APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED DISTINGUISHED PHILOSOPHICAL, SPIRITUAL, LITERARY AND OTHER LEADERS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD FOR PURPOSE OF (A) FOSTERING WORLD-WIDE RECOGNITION OF UNITY OF MANKIND AND (B) HOPEFULLY ORGANIZING CONGRESS ON PERMANENT BASIS TO MEET PERHAPS EVERY FIVE YEARS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD.

2. DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONGRESS IS UNDER AUSPICES OF A NEW
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ORGANIZATION ENTITLED WORLD UNITED, INC., LOCATED IN PHILA-

DELPHIA. TWO CATHOLIC PRIESTS, REV. GUY MERVEILLE AND REV. A. WILLIAM SABATINO, ARE THE PRINCIPAL ORGANIZERS. PROJECT HAS ATTRACTED ASSISTANCE OF GAYLORD HARNWELL, PRESIDENT-EMERITUS OF UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA; JOHN BUNTING, PHILADELPHIA BICENTENNIAL CIVIC LEADER AND BANK PRESIDENT, AND NORMAN COUSINS AMONG OTHERS. PROJECT IS ESSENTIALLY NON-GOVERNMENTAL IN NATURE EVEN THOUGH SPONSORED BY PENNSYLVANIA BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION. PARTICIPANTS WILL ATTEND IN PERSONAL CAPACITY, NOT AS GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES.

3. REVS. MERVEILLE AND SABATINO HAVE IN RECENT MONTHS VISITED VARIOUS NATIONS IN THE NEAR EAST, EUROPE AND AFRICA TO MAKE INITIAL CONTACTS WITH PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS AND DEVELOP INTEREST IN CONGRESS. REV. MERVEILLE IS PRESENTLY PLANNING ITINERARY IN SOUTH AMERICA IN JANUARY, 1974 WITH TENTATIVE ARRIVAL DATES AS FOLLOWS:

MEXICO	JANUARY 3
COLOMBIA	JANUARY 7
VENEZUELA	JANUARY 11
PERU	JANUARY 15
CHILE	JANUARY 19
ARGENTINA	JANUARY 23
URUGUAY	JANUARY 27
BRAZIL	JANUARY 31

POSTS WILL BE INFORMED FURTHER WHEN ITINERARY IS DEFINITE. HE WILL PROBABLY BE TRAVELING IN SECULAR DRESS GIVEN NATURE OF ASSIGNMENT.

4. ORGANIZERS HAVE INVITED COOPERATION OF DEPARTMENT AND POSTS IN SUGGESTING POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS FROM SOUTH AMERICA AND WILL MAIL PROSPECTUS REGARDING CONFERENCE TO PAO'S. PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE OF CALIBRE OF FORMER UN SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT; FRENCH PHILOSOPHER AND HISTORIAN, ETIENNE GILSON; BRITISH POLITICAL LEADER, PHILIP NOEL-BAKER; SPANISH ROYAL UNCLASSIFIED

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ACADEMY MEMBER AND EDUCATOR, ANTONIO TOVAR; AUSTRIAN NOBEL PRIZE WINNER IN MEDICINE, KONRAD LORENZ; AMERICAN AUTHOR AND EDITOR, NORMAN COUSINS, ETC. DURING HIS TOUR FATHER MERVEILLE WILL PERSONALLY VISIT AND INVITE THOSE SELECTED.

5. DEPARTMENT IS SUPPORTIVE OF BICENTENNIAL EFFORTS OF STATE COMMISSIONS PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT TO PROJECTS IN

FURTHERANCE OF CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND MUTUAL
UNDERSTANDING. WILL THEREFORE APPRECIATE HAVING SUG-
GESTIONS FROM POSTS BY CABLE PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 30
REGARDING POTENTIAL INVITEES. PLEASE INCLUDE MAILING
ADDRESS SO ORGANIZERS CAN CORRESPOND IN ADVANCE OF VISIT.
WILL ALSO APPRECIATE ANY COURTESIES POSTS MAY APPRO-
PRIATELY EXTEND TO REV. MERVEILLE DURING TOUR. RUSH

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